

This winter you can fool Mother Nature by taking advantage of utility funded energy efficiency programs.

You can beat the cold weather and higher forecasted energy prices by weatherizing your home for as little as fifty percent of the cost and receiving rebates on refrigerators, furnaces, gas water heaters, lighting and programmable thermostats. In some cases tenants can save even more. If you live on the Cape, you can save \$3,000 when converting from electric to gas or oil heat!

Why pay for heat to escape through under-insulated walls and attics or leak through ductwork or drafty windows? Have your heating ducts and windows sealed and your walls and attic insulated. (Poorly insulated attics are a major source of heat loss.) Other ways to save include programmable thermostats that will automatically lower the temperature when you're sleeping or away at work and replacing an old furnace or gas hot water heater with energy efficient ones.

Do you have an old refrigerator, even in a basement, that's using a tremendous amount of energy? Trade it away for a \$300 rebate on an Energy Star refrigerator and save \$130 per year in reduced electric bills. Your new refrigerator could pay for itself in less than three years.

In the past an energy audit would give you a report telling you what to do and how much you would save. You would also receive a light bulb and a few other energy saving measures and you would have to find a contractor and pay for the entire cost. Today's energy audit is more comprehensive and includes utility approved contractors who perform the work and your utility company will pay part of the cost. Money you spend this year will help you save for years to come.

How can you take advantage of these programs? Call this toll free number to find out who will provide an audit and get specific information on the incentives offered by your utility company. (Consumers who have municipally owned electric and gas companies should call them directly.)

1-866-527-SAVE (7283)

The Residential Efficiency and Renewable Energy Hotline provides information about energy efficiency, renewable energy, and home performance. The Hotline has three goals: to answer resident inquiries about energy efficiency and renewable energy, to match residents' needs with appropriate resources, and to identify residents who require a Home Energy Assessment.

The Hotline provides the following services:

- ?? Phone-based appliance education
- ?? Energy efficiency and renewable energy mailings
- ?? Technical assistance about efficiency or renewable energy improvements
- ?? Referrals to efficiency and renewable energy web sites

Utility Rebates as of October 2003

	Refrigerator rebate***	Comprehensive rebate program	Insulation Weatherization	Windows	Furnace Boilers	Water heaters	Thermostats
FG&E	\$300	50% up to \$1,000	x****	where cost effective			
NSTAR Electric	\$300	50% up to \$1,000	x****	none	x	none	none
MECo	\$300	75% up to \$1,000	x****	none	\$300 ##	none	none
WMECo	\$300	50% up to \$1,000	x****	pilot through June 2004	\$750** #	solar	\$45
Cape Light Compact	\$300	50% up to \$1,000	x****	none	\$200###	none	75%
Keyspan	none	none	20%** , * (\$750 max)	\$1.00/sq foot (max \$500)*	\$150 to \$500	\$100	\$25 (maximum 2)
Bay State	none	33%/75%	33%/75%		\$150 to \$500	\$100	33%/75%
FG&E	none	50% up to \$1,000	33%	33%	\$200 to \$500	\$100	33%
NSTAR Gas	none	50% up to \$1,000	50% up to \$1,500*	none	\$150 to \$500	\$100	\$50 (maximum 2)
Berkshire	none	50%	50%**	fixed-rate financing	\$150 to \$500	\$100	50%
NE Gas Fall River	none	50% to 75%	50% to 75%	none	\$150 to \$500	\$100	50% to 75%
NE Gas N Attleboro	none	50% up to \$500	50% up to \$500	none	\$150 to \$500	\$100	\$50

* heating customers only

** installed by participating contractors only

*** must replace inefficient refrigerator

****in homes that heat with oil or electricity

must be an Energy Star labeled Oil or Propane Furnace (steam system may also qualify)

for oil systems where installing shell measures

for gas networks high efficiency furnace. Cape Light Compact also offers a \$3,000 rebate for switching from electric heat to an efficient gas, oil or propane system

The higher percentage of two listed in columns is for tenants